

Applic. No. 10/657,927

Amdt. dated December 17, 2004

Reply to Office action of September 17, 2004

Specification Amendments

Replace the paragraph between page 12, line 18 and page 13, line 8 with the following:

--A separator 20, in which radioactively loaded particles 22 are kept back, is arranged in the upper tube part 10. The separator 20 prevents the loaded particles 22 from entering the lower tube part [[10]] 12 from the interior 8. This prevents the particles 22 from accumulating on the closure flange 14, and from forming a radiation source outside the reactor pressure vessel 6 at the closure flange 14. The configuration of the separator 20 is in this case based on the idea of allowing water that is loaded with particles 22 to enter the guide tube 2, since providing a seal on the guide tube 2, for example, a dirt cap, does not reliably prevent particles 22 from entering the guide tube 2. The particles 22 and the water are separated in the separator 20, with the water from which the particles 22 have been separated entering the lower tube part 12 as unloaded water. For this purpose, there is a flow connection from the lower tube part 12 to the separator 20, which allows the pressures to be equalized in a simple manner.--